

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the above-identified Office Action. The above listing of the claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the proposed amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

The Abstract

In this response, the abstract has been revised to improve syntax and form, and to render it consistent with MPEP § 608.01(b) by obviating the use of the term “comprises.”

Claim Objection

In this response claim 8 has been revised to clarify the language and to make the method steps which are executed clear.

Rejection under 35 USC § 102

The rejection of claim 8 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Dickmeyer et al. is respectfully traversed. First, the claim has been examined under the assumption that it is an apparatus claim. Second, this reference to Dickmeyer et al. does not disclose all of the claimed steps.

For example, the step of selecting from amongst a plurality of housings, is neither disclosed nor suggested. That is to say, in the rejection, plural kinds of outer shell cases of different diameters are alleged to be disclosed by elements 14, 45 and shown in Figs. 4-5. However, 46 is disclosed as being a connector, while 14 is disclosed as being a stamping which forms terminals. Indeed, a review of the Dickmeyer et al. reference reveals that there is nothing to suggest that a plurality of the same type of element, wherein each element has a different diameter, are prepared ready for selection in the claimed manner.

In view of this shortcoming it is respectfully submitted that a prima facie case of anticipation has not been established and that the rejection should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

It is submitted that claim 8 is allowable for at least the reasons advanced above and that it should be allowed along with allowed claims 1-7.

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